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Q11

Discuss the position of the Governor in the federal polity of India. What is the nature of his power while giving assent to a bill passed by the State Legislature? Is he bound by the aid and advice of his Council of Ministers in all his functions?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · GS II · 15 marks · Federal Structure and Devolution

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Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

Article 153 of the Constitution of India

Provides for the office of the Governor for each state.

Article 200 of the Constitution of India

Outlines the powers of the Governor regarding assent to bills passed by the State Legislature.

Shamsher Singh v. State of Punjab (1974)

Supreme Court held that the President and Governor must exercise their formal constitutional powers only on the aid and advice of their ministers, except in specified exceptional situations.

Nabam Rebia v. Deputy Speaker (2016)

Supreme Court ruled that the exercise of discretionary power by the Governor under **Article 163** is subject to judicial review and must be based on objective material.

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